

## Senegalese troops kill 300 separatists

DAKAR (AFP) — Senegalese troops killed at least 300 suspected armed rebels Sunday in Senegal's southern Casamance province, reliable sources said here Tuesday. Two soldiers were killed and six injured in Sunday's operation, which took place in the Oussouye region not far from the border with Guinea-Bissau, the sources added. However, there was no official confirmation of the casualty toll. The army had taken up stations in the region, a stronghold of the radical armed wing of the Casamance Movement of Democratic Forces (MFDC), when it was attacked by more than 300 rebels. The troops returned fire with support from the air force, dividing and trapping the rebel forces and preventing them from falling back into Guinea-Bissau territory. The operation was the bloodiest clash in the troubled province since separation began their armed campaign in 1982. It came 11 days after Father Augustin Diamaoune Senghor, leader of the breakaway armed wing of the MFDC, called on the separatists to "cease fire and lay down their arms" in a radio broadcast. The charismatic priest, a former partisan of "total and immediate independence," was in the province's capital Ziguinchor after eight months' exile in Guinea-Bissau.

Volume 17 Number 5288

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1993, SHAWAL 29, 1413

## Split announced in Abu Nidal group

AMMAN (AFP) — A group of Palestinians Tuesday announced it has broken ranks with the hardline Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) of Abu Nidal, which it accused of failing to side with Iraq during the Gulf war. In a statement to AFP in Amman, the Organisation of the First Province of the FRC charged that Abu Nidal's group took a neutral stance in the war for Kuwait in exchange for financial contributions from Gulf states. It said that Abu Nidal kept offices and representatives in Kuwait as well as in Egypt and Saudi Arabia, whose troops joined a US-led coalition in driving Iraqi soldiers from Kuwait. The new group also denounced a recent wave of killings in Lebanon involving Abu Nidal militants and members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's main stream group, Fatah. It said it was opposed to the bloodshed "despite its political differences with Fatah." Palestinian sources in Amman confirmed the creation of the new group and said it was being led by Abdul Karim Al Banna, a relative of Abu Nidal whose real name is Sabri Al Banna. The new group is based in Baghdad, the sources said.

## Crown Prince condoles Turkey

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday called at the Turkish embassy in Amman to offer condolences over the death of President Turgut Ozal. Jordan will be represented at the funeral of Mr. Ozal in Ankara by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd and Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti. The delegation arrived in Ankara Tuesday. The funeral will be held Wednesday. Turkish Prime Minister Suleiman Demirel received the delegation.

## Arafat, Sharif Zeid stuck in elevator

AMMAN (AFP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker were forced into 10 minutes of private talks on Tuesday after their elevator jammed in the premier's building. "We tried to continue our conversation," said Mr. Arafat as he emerged smiling from the elevator, after security forces and technicians lowered it manually. Mr. Arafat has survived far more threatening situations, including a plane crash in the Libyan desert on April 7, 1992.

## Tunisia to send aid to Palestinians

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia announced plans Tuesday to send relief aid to Palestinians in the sealed-off Israeli-occupied territories. The government, ruling party and press relayed an appeal from President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali to gather food, medicines and clothes to be sent to the Gaza Strip, and West Bank. Radio appeals said the aid would be collected at Red Crescent or state-run social solidarity fund centres. Schools and universities were also helping with the appeal. Tunisia did not say how it intended to deliver the aid.

## Clinton orders probe of Waco siege

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton Tuesday said that cult leader David Koresh "bears ultimate responsibility" for the heavy loss of life at his private compound at the end of a 51-day siege. "He killed those he controlled," the president said. Mr. Clinton ordered an investigation and said that as president, he bears full responsibility for the actions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and other federal agents. He said he was briefed on plans to increase pressure on Mr. Koresh and his followers and told attorney General Janet Reno "to do what she thought was right." Mr. Clinton described Mr. Koresh as "dangerous, irrational and probably insane." (See page 8).

## Syrian transport minister arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Syrian Transport Minister Mu'eed Abdul Karim Tuesday arrived here on a four-day official visit to Jordan. In an arrival statement at Ramtha border point, Mr. Abdul Karim said his visit was aimed at holding talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Transport Minister Ali Suhaimeh on bilateral relations and means of further enhancing cooperation in the transport sector. Mr. Abdul Karim will attend meetings of the general assembly of the Jordanian Syrian Land Transport Company and the Syrian Jordanian Maritime Transport Company, which will be held in Amman.

## S. African accuses Israel of racism

SYDNEY (AFP) — Israel's treatment of Palestinians in the occupied territories was the same as the racist treatment of blacks in South Africa, a delegate at a United Nations conference of racism charged here Tuesday. Dumisa Ntsebeza, past president of the Black Lawyers Association of South Africa, told the conference that former Ugandan President Idi Amin's contention that Zionism was racism was not wrong. Both the Palestinians in the occupied territories and black communities in South Africa had been excluded from their land and suffered under the laws of racist governments, he said.



An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan times جريدة يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية للطباعة

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

# Decision on peace talks expected today

Intense inter-Palestinian consultations held in Amman as Arab officials wait in Damascus  
Arafat holds talks with Prince Hassan, says  
Palestinians want public U.S. assurances

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Tuesday held extensive talks with Jordanian leaders and Palestinian peace negotiators seeking a way to resume Palestinian participation in the Middle East peace process. A decision to attend the talks, however, is expected Wednesday.

Mr. Arafat, who held talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa — who also delivered to him a message from President Hosni Mubarak — was having extended discussions late Tuesday with members of the Palestinian delegation to the negotiations.

Palestinian sources said Mr. Arafat was facing immense pressure from some of the delegates who were demanding explicit Israeli and American undertakings before agreeing to return to the negotiating table.

The sources said the delegates were arguing that in the absence of such undertakings, it would be very difficult for them to make the Palestinian constituency in the occupied territories to accept Palestinian participation in the

peace talks.

"They are saying that they could not very well go back to their constituents and tell them the bottom lines of the peace process and Palestinian participation," said one of the sources.

They are demanding something more tangible in terms of American assurances and Israeli undertakings, particularly a view of the (three-week-old) closure of the occupied territories," said the source, who preferred anonymity.

As April 20, the date originally set for round nine of the peace talks to commence, drew to a close, Palestinian sources said American "assurances" that "things fall in place for the Palestinians" as soon as they said the "magic yes" to return to the talks were not enough to justify a return to the peace talks. But, they added, Arab pressure had left no choice for the Palestinians but to attend the talks, now tentatively set for April 27.

"It was not the American pressure nor the Israeli intransigence that twisted the hand of chairman Arafat," said one of the sources, adding:

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"Heavy pressure was applied on Mr. Arafat in Cairo and Latakia (in Syria where Mr. Arafat met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Sunday)."

The source, a member of Mr. Arafat's "inner circle," was speaking to the Jordan Times in a telephone interview from Tunis hours before Mr. Arafat met with the Palestinian negotiators in Amman.

The peace talks entered into limbo after Israel expelled more than 400 Palestinians to Lebanon in December and the Palestinian delegation, guided by the PLO, demanded their immediate repatriation. Since then, the Palestinians have, however, softened their stand to accept a phased return of the expellees but are seeking more substantial assurances related to the core issues on the negotiating table and the situation on the ground in the occupied territories.

"There was an American promise of adherence to the letter of assurances and the Israelis were expected to come up with some sort of a statement saying that expulsion is not a policy and is only used in cases where security issues are at stake," said the PLO sources on condition of anonymity.

Mr. Arafat's decision to announce Palestinian attendance of round nine in Washington is linked to Arab pressure to go and the overtures made by Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal to resume financial support to both the PLO and the people in the occupied territories. Palestinians close to the

Regent made the comments to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, after a meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa, who also delivered to him a message addressed to His Majesty King Hussein from President Husni Mubarak of Egypt.

No details of the message were immediately available, but it was believed that it had to do with the Middle East peace process and Arab coordination.

The Regent met separately with Mr. Arafat and Mr. Musa and then held a joint meeting with both as all attention was focused on Amman where the Palestinians were expected to take the crucial decision of whether and when to resume

peace talks with Israel.

In his comments to Petra, the Regent emphasised "the importance of an overall assessment of the current Arab situations designed to avert any future criticism that (Arab and Palestinian leaderships) abandoned their historical responsibilities."

The Regent said the Arab assessment was "particularly significant in view of Israel's arrogance and its oppressive measures against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, including victimisation and exploitation, and the key issue of Jerusalem."

"We will see the results of the evaluation at the Damascus meeting of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Arab parties involved in the peace process," he said.

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## Israelis rocket 4 Gaza homes

OCCUPIED GAZA STRIP (Agencies) — Israeli troops rocked and destroyed four Palestinian houses in the occupied Gaza Strip Tuesday during a search for wanted men, Palestinians said.

The raid began before dawn and continued into the afternoon in a neighbourhood of Gaza City. Troops roved the streets with loudspeakers demanding that wanted persons surrender.

Soldiers rocketed and destroyed the homes of the Ashkar, Hassounah, Mourad and Shieh families on suspicion fugitives were hiding in them, Palestinians said.

Two members of the Fatah Hawks, a group affiliated with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mainstream Fatah faction, were arrested by troops at the Shieh house, they said.

Soldiers shot and wounded five Palestinians in clashes at Jabalia refugee camp in the strip, camp residents said.

Troops have conducted house-to-house raids on towns in the strip in the three weeks since Israel sealed off it and the occupied West Bank in response to



Two elderly residents of Rafah in the occupied Gaza Strip sit in the shade for another day to pass under a harsh clampdown imposed by the Israeli occupation forces (AFP photo)

## Israelis want reform, but politicians bicker

ROME (AP) — Four out of five voting Italians agree it's time to drastically change a political system paralysed by corruption and all-powerful parties.

Now the bickering begins.

Minutes after projections Monday showed overwhelming approval for a referendum calling for direct elections, a thron of political voices arose on what the future course should be.

In final, official results announced Tuesday morning by the Interior Ministry, 83 percent of the voters approved a proposal to directly elect three-quarters of the 315 Senate seats, instead of granting them to the parties according to their percentage of the vote.

Voters also approved, by 90 percent, a referendum abolishing the large government subsidies to parties.

Reformers hope the vote on Senate elections will make politicians more accountable to voters and weaken money-hungry parties.

They hope that by creating the

chance for one political force to gain a majority, that will eliminate the need for weak coalition governments. Italy had 51 governments since the end of World War II.

The parties' grip on power has opened the door to widespread abuse. After 14 months of investigations, more than 2,600 politicians and businessmen are under arrest or suspicion, mainly over kickbacks to parties and politicians in exchange for commercial contracts.

"Today Italy has changed," said Mario Segi, a member of the Chamber of Deputies who led the electoral reform movement.

"It is the end of impotent democracy, of incomplete democracy. It is the beginning of a democracy of alternatives, of a democracy where parties count for less and citizens much more."

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(Continued on page 7)

## Regent urges international focus on plight of people under Israeli rule

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has called for an expression of will by everyone concerned in the Middle East peace process and by the U.S., the main sponsor of the process, which has promised the role of a full partner.

In an interview with Mexican Television, Prince Hassan drew attention to the negative aspects of realities on the ground and said disparities and the living conditions of the Israelis and the Palestinians were the key issue that should be attended to.

He also urged a regional discussion of human rights.

"Very clearly I think that one

can't talk about momentum and (pace) without regaining the position that was held very clearly by the Arab delegations, in particular on the issue of human rights and... it was very clear that human rights can only be discussed regionally, and this is one of the very important points that has to be made that there is no synergy or link between the multilateral on refugees at present and the international community, is unfortunately so pre-occupied with many other issues on the international agenda that there is very little focus at the present time on this priority. This is why going

tories or the territories — 242 defines over 5,000 square kilometres of the West Bank, the (Israel) sealing-off effectively means one fifth of the territories anywhere in greater Jerusalem area is sealed off or sequestered....

...and you see the greatest funding to any region in the Middle East going to the occupied territories but in reality it is going to settlement and the international community, is unfortunately so pre-occupied with many other issues on the international agenda that there is very little focus at the present time on this priority. This is why going

shooting. I think my bodyguard shot back at them. They shot him in the back and chest and my driver got a superficial wound in his side."

The minister's blue Mercedes had two bullet shots through its front glass. Its back glass was shattered, and the front passenger's seat, where the bodyguard sat, was snatched with blood.

Mr. Sherif's hand was cut by flying glass, initial reports that his driver was killed proved incorrect.

Al Gamma Al Islamiya Islamic Group, which is trying to over-

(Continued on page 5)

## Egyptian information chief escapes assassination bid

CAIRO (Agencies) — Gunmen with submachine guns opened fire on the car of Information Minister Safwat Sherif Tuesday, wounding him and two aides. Islamic radicals claimed responsibility for the attack.

The late president's wife, Semra Ozal, and his three children opened the procession followed by Turkish government officials, diplomats and military leaders.

Private citizens, who formed a long line outside parliament, were then allowed to file past Mr. Ozal's coffin, which lay on a catafalque surrounded by Turkish flags.

Mr. Ozal, who died of a heart attack Saturday at the age of 66, was to be buried Wednesday in Ankara's Grand Mosque. His body will be cremated Thursday in Istanbul.

Parliamentary Speaker Hulusi Cindoruk has been appointed interim president until the legislature chooses a new head of state by May 27.

Mr. Ozal's coffin, draped with a Turkish flag, was transported under heavy security from the capital's military hospital to the parliament building.

Several foreign officials were expected to arrive for the funeral, including Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and Azerbaijani President Abulfaz Elshibey.

It was not clear whether the Armenian and Azerbaijani heads of state would use their trip to

(Continued on page 5)

"The action of the president has been resented by everybody in the country, and condemned by all sectors," he said. "There's a complete strike in Lahore and other parts of the country."

Mr. Sharif defended at a press conference his 29-month-old government's economic record, saying it had produced the fastest growing economy in South Asia before it was sacked by Mr. Ishaq Khan Sunday.

"Ghulam Ishaq Khan is playing with the destiny of the nation... he's acted out of purely selfish motives," said Mr. Sharif, adding that he "saw no reason why the National Assembly had to be dissolved."

Mr. Sharif, who plans to mobilise the people, said he would go on a train ride to Lahore Wednesday stopping along the way to address crowds.

The dismissal of his govern-

(Continued on page 5)

## Algeria court rejects death sentences; top Islamist leader killed

ALGIERS (AP) — A special court Monday rejected prosecution demands for the death penalty against eight defendants in a mass trial of 41 suspected Islamic activists.

Police meanwhile announced that a leader of the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) who urged the assassination of political figures was shot and killed by security forces April 6.

The anti-terrorist court in the western of Oran sentenced two defendants to life terms without parole, one to 20 years, and 29 to terms ranging from two to 15 years. Nine were acquitted.

Those sentenced were convicted of conspiracy against the state, attempted assassination and kidnapping, and trafficking arms.

The penalties handed down by the court, one of three anti-terrorism panels that has the right to impose the death penalty without appeal, were seen as moderate.

Since their creation in September to streamline the judicial procedures against terror suspects, the courts in Oran, Algiers and Constantine have sentenced at least 22 people to death. It is not known how many have been carried out.

The trial took place behind closed doors. No details have been released by authorities on the defendants or their alleged crimes.

Police meanwhile announced that Omar Al Eulmi, a member of the 14-man council that ruled the FIS until it was legally dissolved, was killed in an Algiers suburb by security forces.

The nearly two-week delay in

the announcement was not explained. Police offered no details, saying only that Eulmi, 40, was operating under a false identity as a student.

Eulmi last month issued a religious decree on an underground cassette urging his followers to kill "agents of the government."

The orders came as assassins killed three political figures in four days. No claim of responsibility was issued, but police blamed Islamic gunmen.

In the cassette, Eulmi denounced FIS leaders in exile in Europe as "hypocrites" interested only in power. He was known to be competing with other leaders in Algeria for control of the armed insurgency.

Eulmi, who founded an Islamic labour union, led the strike called by the FIS over unfavourable electoral rules in May 1991. At least 55 people died in rioting. A four-month state of emergency was imposed and several Salvation Front leaders arrested.

A first round of parliamentary elections was held under new rules in December 1991. The FIS placed well ahead of the opposition, but the second round was cancelled in January 1992 by a military coup.

The government imposed a new state of emergency, still in effect, and dissolved the FIS. Eulmi was detained for a few weeks in a desert detention centre, released for unknown reasons, and went underground.

The underground war between Islamic gunmen and security forces since the military takeover has left more than 600 people dead.

The nearly two-week delay in

## Saudi paper hits Kuwait over Bush

DUBAI (R) — A Saudi newspaper has taken Kuwait bitterly to task for appearing to ignore its neighbours' role in liberating it from Iraqi occupation when it heaped honours on former U.S. President George Bush.

"Kuwaitis have the right to honour Bush but the region's peoples also have a right to be deeply affected when their primary role in the battle is suppressed and is only referred to as a sop," Al Riyadhi daily said in a commentary Saturday. The newspaper was obtained Monday.

The newspaper, which often reflects official Saudi thinking, was remarking on the extraordinary hero's welcome Mr. Bush received when he visited Kuwait last week to receive thanks for leading the alliance that expelled the Iraqis who invaded in August 1990.

"I felt as a Saudi citizen, as the average Saudi people felt, that the Saudi role in the Gulf crisis was traditionally absent ..."

"(This) can only be explained by the predominance of the foreigner complex in the minds of those who restrict extravagant praise to Bush alone," the daily wrote in an unusual criticism of a Gulf Arab neighbour.

The newspaper reminded Kuwaitis that Saudi not only shared their bones and food with those who invaded, but had also hosted the entire Kuwaiti government.

Saudi Arabia's sacrifice was even greater when it allowed the allies to use its territory as a base for the counterattack that liberated Kuwait, it said.

"Without that, Kuwaitis would have lost their land forever," it added.

It said Saudi Arabia's King Fahd "risked his country and his people's lives."

"There is no greater sacrifice that a country can make for a neighbour whose land and people have been abused," it added.

The newspaper said Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Syria, whose troops also took part in the battle to expel the Iraqis, were only mentioned in passing during the Bush visit "as if to say 'don't you dare get angry for we have mentioned you.'

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# Home News



Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker meets Tuesday with visiting President of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank Ahmad (Petra photo)

Mohammad Ali (centre) and Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi (Petra photo)

## IDB to finance major projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Tuesday praised the role of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) in all areas of development and its continuous endeavours to cooperate with Islamic countries.

Sharif Zeid was speaking at a meeting with the visiting president of the IDB, Ahmad Mohammad Ali, attended by the Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi.

The Prime Minister was briefed on bilateral cooperation between Jordan and the IDB in economic, commercial and social fields and on the projects to be financed by

the bank, particularly labour-intensive, scientific and technological projects.

Planning Minister Ziad Fariz also received Dr. Ali and reviewed with him scopes of cooperation between Jordan and the Islamic countries.

In a press statement after the meeting, Dr. Fariz said the IDB will finance the construction of King Abdullah Hospital at Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) in Irbid Governorate.

He also said the IDB will finance a project to augment the production capacity of the Arab Potash Company.

The meeting was attended by ministry Secretary General Safwan Touqan.

Dr. Fariz added that the IDB had agreed to finance the purchase of a multi-purpose ship that will join the Jordan National Shipping Lines, as well as provide technical assistance in various fields.

The bank has also agreed to finance the connection of the railroad at Shidieh junction and a project for pumping water from the Disi basin to Amman.

Dr. Ali stressed the need to support the potash industry, because of the achievements made by the Arab Potash Company.

The meeting was attended by ministry Secretary General Safwan Touqan.

## Queen advocates universalising human rights norms

WASHINGTON (AP) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday said the time has come to universalise human rights and their enforcement "in a way that is culturally and politically relevant to all peoples."

People in many parts of the world now question "discriminatory policies which vigorously advocate adherence to human rights standards in some countries, but disregard equally severe or blatant violations in others," the Queen said at a conference on human rights for the 21st century.

"A more stable and humane global order requires ... a cross-cultural consensus that is clear, credible and durable," she said.

Queen Noor was honorary chair of a two-day session at American University in Washington D.C. intended to illuminate issues before the U.N. Human Rights Conference at Vienna, Austria, in June.

The challenge at Vienna will be to harness political will and redefine human rights issues in a way to promote the emergence of a more humane world order, she said.

Rights may seem a "meaningless luxury" to those whose "humanity has been denied due to occupation, warfare, starvation, environmental degradation, economic collapse or debt," the Queen emphasised.

Queen said.

The goal should be to identify values shared by all cultures, she added.

Queen Noor identified "individual legal rights" as stressed by advanced countries and "collective national rights" as stressed by the newly independent, saying they "can and should coexist comfortably."

The Queen said the consensus should reaffirm individual, political and civil rights expanded to include pluralist democracy, the rights of women, native peoples, children, the disabled, the elderly and academic freedom, as well as freedom from occupation, racism, excessive debt and environmental degradation.

Queen Noor said the United Nations would be "the logical authority for human rights monitoring" assisted by a strong network of non-government organisations, national bodies and individuals.

She described as "interesting new ideas" proposals for a powerful international human rights organisation or a U.N. high commissioner for human rights.

"In many lands, human rights are being drowned beneath repeated waves of ethnic violence, xenophobic frenzy and severe economic and demographic stress," Queen Noor emphasised.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday entitled "A Career and Self Development Course for Women" (Petra photo)

## Women learn confidence in career training course

By Sa'eda Kilani  
*Special to the Jordan Times*

AMMAN — Leading women in Jordan admitted Tuesday that what they really need is confidence to counter inequality and exploitation imposed by their male counterparts.

The general consensus on the need for women to devise new strategies necessary for their progress, develop a sense of self-esteem and self-confidence, and explore ways to overcome obstacles imposed in the labour market against them, was reached at the end of a morning session on the first day of a training course at Philadelphia Hotel.

The training course, which is organised by the National Committee for Women (NCW) and sponsored by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), is considered the first of its kind to take place in the Middle East.

"Women don't have self-esteem because nobody gives them credit for what they do," Nichola Malet De Carteret, a consultant from the United Kingdom told the Jordan Times. "The course gives them time to assess themselves, their careers, what they are trying to achieve and how to achieve it."

"The training course, entitled "A Career and Self Development Course for Women," aims mainly at helping women become more positive in their thinking; face daily challenges with more determination and more confidence; have a deeper knowledge of their inner resources and of the skills they have and those they lack.

"We can't wait for structures to change," said Ms. Carteret. "We must take the initiative and have the power to make decisions to produce change."

Women participants, representing various ministries in Jordan, women's organisations or private companies, expressed hope that this course will help them to achieve progress and overcome obstacles imposed in their work.

"I hope this course would help me overcome the stress and tension I am in now," said one of the participants.

"I want to know how to deal with people in an efficient way that would make them respect me."

The National Committee for Women, which was established in March 1992, aims at reviewing and identifying legal and policy constraints to women's participation in the development process; identifying and recommending ways of integrating women's concerns and issues into that process; and developing plans and promoting greater participation of women in the democratic process.

The committee, chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, is developing a national strategy and action plan to support public and private sectors' efforts to achieve their goals.

Their action plan would include the assistance of institutions to improve access to technical and financial resources.

## Private sector encouraged to attend 'Europartariat 93'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's private sector could benefit significantly from a forum arranged by the European Community (EC) in France in June to explore and develop possibilities of joint commercial ventures with European companies and exports to Europe, Jordanian and French officials said Tuesday.

"Europartariat '93," scheduled to be held in the French city of Lille on June 17-18, will be the second such event with Jordanian participation, and at least 20 Jordanian companies are expected to attend, said Nabil Bandak, a counsellor at the Jordan Investment Corporation (JIC).

The statement said the working papers will deal with the following:

— Arab women's contributions in businesses and professions.

— Arab women and higher education: opportunities and lessons.

Mr. Dugue, addressing the press conference on behalf of the European Commission as well as Europartariat '93 host France, noted that Jordan was invited to the event in view of the special relations and agreements between the EC and the Kingdom.

According to Mr. Dugue, European participants in the Lille forum include every sector of industry and agriculture including food, textiles, chemicals, machine tools, building material, electricals and electronics, paper, wood and pulp.

"The only exception is military-related industries," Mr. Dugue said.

"There is no problem of capital in Jordan's private sector," he said. "They have enough."

The problem is to get the right project and the right partner, and I believe that Europartariat offers the perfect forum to explore and develop ideas into projects."

The event will also offer an opportunity for Jordan to advance its quest to increase its exports since many European importers will be at Lille, he said.

"It will be an ideal seller-meets-the-buyer place," Mr. Dugue said.

Mr. Dugue expected a high level of European participation and attendance in the event since the location of Lille was ideal.

The city, located 200 kilometres north of Paris in one of the prominent French industrial areas, lies close to the Belgian and German borders and is two hours away from Britain across the English Channel.

Seven Jordanian firms attended Europartariat '93 held in the Italian city of Bari and at least two of them actively pursued negotiations, and one of them did manage to do business there, Mr. Bandak said.

The JIC is organising two seminars in Amman to inform Jordanian businessmen of the opportunities that the Lille event will offer, he said.

## RANDA BEROUTI

Watercolours  
at  
RESTAURANTE  
ROMERO

April 19 - May 15

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition entitled "The Legend of Petra II" by artist Suha Shoman at the National Gallery for Fine Arts.
- ★ Art exhibition by Samia Al Zaru and Adnan Yahya at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Lujaina Al Aseel at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of books and educational facilities at the International Expo Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of prints, entitled "Architectural Motifs from the Arab World," by Rima Farah at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental.
- ★ Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Lebanese artist Randa Berouti at Romero Restaurant.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Hanan Al Dasouqi at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of chemical materials and experiments for school students at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST).

### THEATRE

- ★ Arabic play entitled "The Dawn and Sunset of a Girl Called Yasmin" at 7 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ English play entitled "The Right Size" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8 p.m.

### LECTURE

- ★ Lecture entitled "The World Archaeological Congress: Past, Present and Future" by Dr. Peter Stone, the education officer for English heritage in Bristol and a member of the permanent secretariat of the World Archaeological Congress, at the Friends of Archaeological Centre at 7 p.m.

## Arab businesswomen to discuss their contributions, problems

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

eight Arab states including Jordan, according to a BPWC statement.

The statement said the conference will review and analyse the main issues related to Arab women's participation in business, put forth ideas and proposed solutions to related difficulties, and identify the role which the IFBPW can play to help local women in business and professional work.

It said five working papers focusing on the main problems encountered by working women will be reviewed at the meeting which will be attended by delegates from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Bahrain, the United Arab

Emirates, Oman and Yemen, in addition to the IFBPW delegation which includes representatives from Bermuda, Italy, Kenya, Singapore, the Netherlands and Finland.

Jordan, the statement continued, will be represented by 30 delegates from the private and public sectors, and the meetings will continue at the Grand Forte Hotel (formerly the Plaza).

The statement said the working papers will deal with the following:

— Arab women's contributions in businesses and professions.

— Arab women and higher education: opportunities and lessons.

## Amman Plaza now Forte Grand Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Tuesday marked the renaming of the Amman Plaza Hotel to Forte Grand Amman, following changes in recent months within the Forte Hotels chain which owns the Amman hotel.

A spokesman for Forte Grand told the Jordan Times Tuesday that the hotel which was inaugurated as the Amman Plaza Hotel in 1986, was actually run by Trust House Forte which also operates other Forte Grand hotels in the Middle East.

The spokesman said that in the past few months Forte Hotels introduced changes and subdivisions within its chain, creating five categories of its hotels around the world.

He said that the Forte Grand Hotel in Jordan falls within the deluxe category — which groups all the five-star hotels within the chain.

Based in the United Kingdom, Forte has 850 hotels worldwide.

According to the spokesman, the change of the name "meant reinforcing the linkage within the same Forte chain of hotels, but

there was no changes in the management."

The launching of Forte Grand Amman took place at a special reception hosted by the Chairman of the Housing Bank and Forte's Vice President for the Middle East Gerald Lawless.

According to the spokesman, the renaming of the hotel was consistent with the rebranding programme of Forte, and reflected the chain's commitment to the region where the Forte chain now has eight Forte Grand properties.

In addition to the 12 members of the EC, countries in the former East bloc and the Mediterranean basin will participate in the event.

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جordan Times جريدة عربية مستقلة صدرت في الأردن في 1975.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times advertising department.

## Piracy and diplomacy

IS IT conceivable that Washington is still suffering from the hangover of the Gulf war as far as Jordan is concerned? Over two years have lapsed since that war ended, and yet the U.S. is still treating this country as if we remain in the enemy's camp. The best evidence of this inexplicable attitude is the turning back of Aqaba-bound ships — three this month alone — carrying general cargo to Jordanian importers. The third vessel, a Sudanese-flag ship chartered to a largely Jordanian government-owned shipping company, has just been turned back to Port Suez and this latest interference with free shipping came on the heel of two similar episodes involving Norwegian and Sudanese cargo ships transporting non-military goods from Western countries. Coming as it does only hours after the conclusion of joint U.S.-Jordanian military manoeuvres, one is at a loss to explain the rationality behind this behaviour, particularly when the goods freighted to Jordan originated mostly in Western countries and the carrier, the National Shipping Lines, is 75 per cent government owned. If the U.S. government did take a complete stock of Jordan's policies, both domestic and external, one would have thought that Amman will be rewarded and not penalised for them.

To start with Jordan has abided faithfully and to the best of its ability by the U.N. Security Council sanctions imposed on Iraq. There is no such thing as a "fool-proof" sanctions mechanism, no matter how hard countries try to enforce them. The Iraqi borders with Iran and Turkey are nearly wide open with no significant reaction from the U.S. Picking on Jordan all the time when it has put into practice increasingly stiff measures to plug any existing loopholes is not something that augurs well for the role of Jordan in the ongoing peace process or with its determined efforts to nurture pluralistic democracy. Is it possible that in spite of the country's peaceful and progressive roles in the Middle East, there is still a determined effort to break the back of this country? How else can one interpret the persistent efforts to cut off the country's only sea outlet from the outside world. Perhaps there is bad communication line between the U.S. inspectors in the high seas and Washington, and if this is the case it is high time that the U.S. State Department put an end to the over-exploited and abused excuse often offered by American Marines in the Tiran Straits that cargo destined for Jordan is inaccessible to easy inspection! The place to control and check cargo is at points of origin, if at all. Is there any doubt that British, French and other European exporters are observing the sanctions regime against Iraq? Some of the cargo intercepted originates in the U.S. itself, we might add. There must be a better way then to handle this problem other than bleeding Jordan to death. Otherwise this country must take effective counter measures including the overhaul of its foreign policies towards its presumably good friends and allies. Piracy in diplomatic relations would simply not work.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

SAWT AL SHAAB daily Tuesday discussed the stepped up campaign against the Aqaba-bound ships and demanded an immediate end to what it called arbitrary actions being taken by the foreign naval forces against Jordan. The naval forces have been turning back vessels laden with food stuffs and other items for Jordan in flagrant violation of free maritime operations and in total disregard for Jordan's sovereignty, said the daily. This harassment of Jordan-bound shipping is meant as a dangerous move, manifesting a tendency to take revenge on Jordan for its national stand and to pressure this Kingdom into succumbing to other Arab's desires and whims, said the daily. This harassment, it added, is bound to cause further economic hardships to the Kingdom which is overburdened with numerous headaches. It said the paper said that in the space of one month the naval forces have turned back three cargo vessels carrying essential goods to Jordan under unconvincing pretenses. Jordan has been fully committed to the U.N. resolutions and has been honouring the embargo all along, especially with regard to the imported goods via Aqaba, the paper continued. It said that the naval blockade of Aqaba could be motivated by evil forces, hostile to the Kingdom and aiming to impoverish this country. One can only ask what objectives can be achieved by the U.S.-led naval forces through this continued harassment, knowing that the goods turned back are all essential food stuffs for the people of Jordan. The paper said that every possible way should be followed in order to end the illegal harassment of Jordan which is totally committed to the international legitimacy and continuously honours all U.N. resolutions.

MAHMOUD RIMAWI, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily, demanded that Washington show more seriousness in matters related to the peace process in order to lure the parties to the talks. The writer said that Washington ought to stop playing the double standard role and adopt contradictory attitudes if it is really oriented towards achieving a lasting peace in the Middle East. First and foremost, the writer said, Washington should see to it that Resolution 794 is implemented so that the Palestinians can be persuaded to go to the negotiations, feeling no embarrassment before the Palestinian public. Washington should also make it clear that Resolution 242 still forms the basis for any solution which should be listing, he said. The writer said that the Israeli sh. rid not be absolved of the sin of trying to impede progress in the peace process or of the atrocities committed against the Palestinians. He said the Arab foreign ministers meeting in Damascus should make these demands clear to the U.S. administration and should get a favourable response before they resume the peace process.

## Economic Forum

I follow up, with keen interest, the application by economic policies of various theories, as this represents some sort of experimentation that verifies these theories and determines how fit they are to survive and to address factual challenges. Supply-side economics, currency devaluation in developing countries, and floating of interest rates are examples of this brand of academics. Privatisation is another one.

This Thatcher-initiated Reagan-backed policy device was enthusiastically received in various countries and quarters and by numerous shades of opinion. Although it has abated in the West and to a lesser degree in developing countries, privatisation is still in its prime in the socialist and ex-socialist countries. As with so many other things, privatisation is easier and nicer said than practically applied.

In Jordan, it is interesting to notice that we have not taken one actual step in the field of privatisation although we have talked volumes about it. However, this delay may be useful if we can benefit from the experience of other countries in this field.

"Euromoney" published in its April 1993 issue an opinion on the lessons learned from the privatisation experiments of various countries. The related article was written by an "American merchant banker based in London" under the nickname of

Gallatin who chose to highlight the dangers of privatisation. The following paragraphs present the essence of that opinion.

Dangers that accompany privatisation may be macroeconomic dangers, which affect the country's economic viability or security, microeconomic dangers, that affect the health of the company being privatised, and dangers to the government's privatisation process if it is inadequately managed.

The cardinal danger is the threat of unemployment which materialises in almost all circumstances. Where unemployment is already a problem, privatisation can hardly be a consolation on whatever count. This applies to Jordan and is probably one reason why privatisation plans have not taken off.

Privatisation may cause the loss of control of a vital industry. In advanced economies, this poses less of a problem. In less advanced ones, it may be a mistake to let go too soon of a vital state asset.

Privatisation can cause disruption to the business being privatised. Small-scale businesses acquired by foreign or private investors may benefit. But in many other companies the results of lay-offs on a massive scale, the requirement to retool entire plants and the challenge of setting up new distribution systems will affect productivity over the long run. Indeed, the record of even

successful acquisitions in highly-industrialised economies is mixed at best.

In the face of these three main dangers, Gallatin gives three major bits of advice. Governments must beware privatising lame-duck companies or companies in lame-duck industries. Second, they must be clear about their objectives which can range from receiving maximum privatisation proceeds to making an ideological break with state socialism; rarely only one objective is the motivating factor. Third, governments must decide whether the benefits of a privatisation outweigh the cost to society, especially in the likely level of unemployment that will ensue.

The conclusion?

As time goes on, privatisation will become ever-more imprecise. It is the motivations of privatising governments which will determine the privatisations of the future. The failure of state-imposed economics rules out the option of central planning but it may, in time, expose the weaknesses of total free-market capitalism. Governments will begin to act like any other shareholder. They will manage their industrial participations through a holding company, selling and buying stakes primarily on the basis of industrial and financial logic. Privatisation, no panacea, will become one option among many, for buyers and sellers alike.

## Middle East: Clinton takes a sharp turn

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld

**WASHINGTON** — In no place is Bill Clinton diverging more from George Bush's foreign policy than in the Middle East. Perhaps this will work out well in the end, but at the moment it looks as though Mr. Clinton, who has said he believes he has a "real shot" at peace, has not begun hitting the target.

To judge by results, Mr. Bush had the right formula: Be demanding but fair with both Israel and the Arabs, and intervene assertively to move things along on all fronts. This is how he and his secretary of state, James Baker, created constituencies for negotiation in all the key places and moved on to launch broad Arab-Israeli peace talks.

In style, Mr. Clinton has, as he promised would, replace Mr. Bush's steely (and to many Israelis, unnerving) evenhanded detachment from Israel with a public embrace. For the moment, this has calmed the alarm that Israelis feel whenever the United States closes in to shape their fate. Mr. Clinton's rhetoric is warm, be stresses the elements of cooperation in the relationship, and aid flows freely even in these austere times.

This week Mr. Clinton even repudiated an appeal by visiting President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt to seek a further "small step" from Israel on the boiling (for Arabs) issue of allowing the "immediate" repatriation of Palestinian deportees that the United Nations has ordered. Israel has already done "enough" to draw the Palestinians back to the peace table in Washington on April 20, Mr. Clinton said. The battered Mr. Mubarak was left to put a brave face on this rebuff to America's first friend in the Arab World.

In the substance of his diplomacy, Mr. Clinton seems to be stepping back from the Bush attempt to engage across the whole Arab-Israeli spectrum. Instead, he is moving towards an emphasis on a Syria-first strategy, leaving the Palestinians to be isolated.

Syria-first proceeds from a hard-headed reading — Yitzhak Rabin's reading — that Syria has lost its global patron, the Soviet Union, and has seen the shrinkage of its principal Arab rival, Iraq, and is ready for an American-expedited peace-for-territory swap on the model that Egypt and Israel fashioned 15 years ago.

Prime Minister Rabin has, with some boldness, started preparing the Israeli public to work with

called Lishon Protocol signed a year ago which commits Ukraine to giving up all its nuclear arms and joining the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Ukraine's ratification of both documents would put in place a missing piece of a complex international arms control Jigsaw.

Western diplomats in Kiev predict ratification on START-I, but they caution that big problems remain to be solved before all the nuclear weapons in Ukraine are finally dismantled sometime in the 1990s.

Officials told Reuters that closed committee hearings were basically complete and parliament's presidium would decide by Monday whether to put the treaty on next week's agenda. It is not yet clear if parliament will simultaneously ratify the

## Publishers bank on the awakening of Islam in Europe

By Tom Porteous

**CAMBRIDGE, England** — The esoteric logo of the Islamic Texts Society above the Green Street Bookshop in the heart of this ancient university city is a palm tree bearing two fat bunches of dates, with a crescent moon on one side and a burning sun on the other. The sign is made of finely worked metal coated in gold.

Harking back to an earlier age of arcane symbolism, the insignia blends perfectly with the collegial medieval architecture and spiritual ethos of the university. "It is part of an eye for detail and excellence of design, which, in the decade since its foundation, has set the Islamic Texts Society among the most successful small publishing houses in Britain. In 1991 the society won a British Book Design Award for its English edition of the "Innovations" of Hamid Al Gazzali, the 11th century Muslim theologian and mystic. This year, a new publication has been named winner of the same award, and the society is on the short list for the Sunday Times Small Publisher Award.

Such recognition from the arbiters of publishing standards in Britain is exceptional. It is all the more remarkable for a publishing house that specialises in Islamic theology and mysticism, with the aim of promoting "greater understanding of Islam in the West through publishing English translations of works of traditional importance, intellectual vitality and moral confidence of a new European Muslim community."

"What we are witnessing is the birth of Islam in Europe," said Mr. Azzam, whose grandfather was a prominent Egyptian statesman and one of the founders of the Arab League. "It is very interesting and exciting because the leading intellectuals of Islam are now based in the West." He compares the phenomenon to the early spread of Islam in the 7th and 8th centuries in Persia, Africa and Spain, when the religion permeated and integrated with the culture of its host country.

"There is a great difference between Muslim Indonesian culture and Muslim African culture," Mr. Azzam said, "but it's all one religion. What is happening now is that you have a growing number of European Muslims in Europe, many of them of Asian or Arab parentage, but completely westernised, completely confident with the West, without the colonial complexes their grandfathers may have had or which Muslims in the Muslim World may still have. These western Muslims know exactly what they want. They can see that the West is crumbling morally. We are witnessing the birth of the European Muslim movement and this society is one of its voices."

Mr. Azzam sees no similarities between the Islamic awakening in Europe and the growth of Islamic fundamentalism in the Middle East and North Africa. Indeed, he says, political Islam may be one of the reasons why intellectual debate among Muslims in the Arab World is debased at present and much less dynamic and productive than is debate among Muslims in Europe. "If you look back fifty or a hundred years, there were quite a few Muslim

intellectuals in Egypt, which is supposed to be the intellectual centre of the Arab World," Mr. Azzam said. "Today, there are no Muslim thinkers or writers there worth their weight. The debate in the Muslim World is a purely political debate. People in government and opposition are using Islam as a political tool, just as they used to use Arab socialism."

According to Mr. Azzam, Muslim fundamentalism is the product of social and economic conditions. If conditions were improved, fundamentalism would cease to be a problem. "If you give young people an opportunity to work, you would remove their frustrations, and they would stop agitating," he said. "What we do see in these Muslim countries is an intellectual response to fundamentalism, which is sad."

This aspect gives the Islamic Texts Society its distinctive quality, setting it apart from the majority of Islamic publishing houses. According to its regular Muslim customers, the high quality of the society's books, the awards and the prominent profile are indicative of the cultural importance, intellectual vitality and moral confidence of a new European Muslim community..

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Another of this year's publications underline the society's ability to plug its spiritual agenda into more superficial market trends. When Mr. Azzam's grandfather was secretary general of the Arab League in the 1940s, he wrote a book on Islam called "The Eternal Message." Later, when he was at the United Nations, he met Malcolm X, the Black American Muslim radical. The two apparently became friends, and, after reading "The Eternal Message," Malcolm X began to turn away from the radical, anti-white movement — the Nation of Islam — of which he had become a chief spokesman; he later moved towards a more spiritual interpretation of Islam.

"This was the book that really changed Malcolm X's life," said Mr. Azzam, who has republished his grandfather's book to coincide with the release of Spike Lee's controversial film biography of Malcolm X. "Already, the Islamic Texts Society has sold several copies of the book in prepublication orders."

The society, which was funded as an educational, charitable organisation, depended on donations from wealthy Muslims who support its agenda worldwide. Two years ago, the society became a commercial concern, and, judging from its present performance, Mr. Azzam predicts that within two or three years it will be breaking even. If correct, it will be a stunning achievement in a climate of economic recession that has hit the publishing world particularly badly.

Being based in the West, the society is aware that what attracts the westerner to Islam and what attracts the born Muslim living in the West looking for a spiritual path. In addition to Al Ghazali's "Revival of the Religious Sciences" (Ihya Ulum Al Din), the society's books include such classic titles as "The Secret of Secrets" by the 12th century Muslim saint Abd Al Qadir Al Jilani; the famous "Treatise on the Foundations of Islamic Jurisprudence" by Al Imam Al Shafi'i, who founded one of the four schools of Islamic law in the 2nd century of the Muslim era; Al Tabari's commentary on the Qur'an; and Imam Al Bayhaqi's "Seventy-Seven Branches of the Faith."

The society's modern titles include some of the most original, profound texts written on Islamic mysticism — many by European Muslims. Among this year's titles will be the first full English biography of the Andalusian mystic, Al Shaikh Al Akbar Mohieddin Ibn Arabi. "A new work on the extraordinary Moroccan saint and hermit Moulay Abdessalam,"

power — an idea which some nationalist politicians have advocated to bolster their country's security against Russia.

"Every sensible person knows that all the electronic circuits, everything which controls the warheads are in Moscow and Ukraine can not change that, even if it wanted to."

"For Ukraine to have its own nuclear forces it would have to take the warheads off and replace them with its own, produced in Ukraine. We have neither the nuclear industry nor the intention to do this," Mr. Kravchuk said.

Mr. Kravchuk said Ukraine

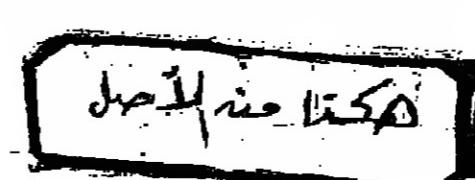
would continue to refuse demands from Moscow that the weapons, now under the command of the Commonwealth of Independent States, should be placed under Russian command. guarantees and financial compensation for voluntarily renouncing the world's third biggest nuclear arsenal.

"We will not take a single step backwards, no matter whom it pleases or displeases. We are defending Ukrainian interests," he declared.

The U.S. has promised Ukraine \$175 million to help dismantle the weapons while Ukraine has mentioned sums running into billions of dollars.

Ukraine is also unhappy with the level of security guarantees that the U.S. and other nuclear powers are prepared to offer.

Washington and Moscow want to push ahead with ratification of START-2, agreed under the START-2 treaty, and are showing increasing impatience with Ukraine.



## Decision on talks due today

(Continued from page 1)  
**PLO** and the negotiating team say the conviction that the U.S. administration would make significant overtures to the Palestinians was underscored by Mr. Mousa of Egypt, who told Jordan Radio Tuesday that "the U.S. administration has promised to announce specific measures which it will carry out if the peace process resumes."

One of the 80 Amman-based members of the Palestine National Council

said of the 80 Amman-based members of the Palestine National Council

talks by up to one week.

## Mubarak sends message to King

(Continued from page 1)

Hussein paid a brief visit to Cairo to offer sympathies to President Mubarak after an earthquake shook the Egyptian capital and killed several hundred people on Oct. 12, 1992.

In August, President Mubarak was among the first Arab leaders to call the King in a U.S. hospital to wish him a speedy recovery after surgery.

Since then, the two leaders have contacted each other over the phone, but there has been no clear indication when the strain in relations could be substantially healed.

Cairo hosted a ministerial-level session of the Arab League Council Sunday and Monday, and one of the themes that went through the corridors but did not materialize on the table was a proposal to set up a tripartite committee — Egypt, Morocco and Mauritania — to settle inter-Arab differences.

Meanwhile, the contents of Mr. Mubarak's message to King Hussein remained a closely-guarded secret,

with little to indicate whether it was directly and exclusively related to the peace process or had wider implications on the overall state of Jordanian-Egyptian and Jordanian-Arab relations.

In comments to reporters in Cairo and in Amman, Mr. Mousa would only say that it was linked to "the peace process and Arab coordination" as concerns both as well as "the situation in the Arab region."

Mr. Mousa said his visit to Jordan

was aimed at "ensuring the resumption and reform."

The Egyptian minister, in comment of this year's meetings carried by Petra, expressed the hope that the negotiations would resume soon.

"It won't be today, but there will be a date soon and I think it will be next week," he told reporters.

There will be a decision shortly. Let us hope for the best and be optimistic about the future."

Diplomats speculated that the United States also signal a turn in bilateral relations with the Gulf as well as efforts to heal inter-Arabism radical. The differences brought about by the Gulf crisis

have become more prominent.

Later, Mr. Mousa's message to Jordan could also signal a turn in bilateral relations with the Gulf as well as efforts to heal inter-Arabism radical. The differences brought about by the Gulf crisis

have become more prominent.

After the end of the war which ended in the book that Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, Mr. Mousa's visit to Amman was the second by the Egyptian foreign minister, who has repeated the first was in December to attend an Arab coordination meeting.

He released Spokesperson of the Arab Foreign Ministry, "The Egyptian message to Jordan could

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## Jordan, Syria draw 2-2

By Aileen Banayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan and Syria Tuesday drew 2-2 in a friendly soccer match held on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of constitutional powers.

The match, sponsored by Al Ra'i Arabic daily, and held at Al Hassan Sport City in Irbid, was attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Haya, Minister of Youth Saleh Israieh and over 7,000 soccer fans.

Although the game was slow and uninteresting in the first half, both teams upgraded their performance in the remaining part of the match which witnessed a total of four goals.

Nart Yadaj and Aref Hussein led the Jordanian team's attacks but the first goal was scored late in the first half by Subhi Suleiman in the 44th minute.

Yadaj was substituted by Jordan's top strike Jiryes Tadros in the second half as the Kingdom's team played a faster game and mounted all-out attacks on the Syrian goal, depending on cohesive teamwork.

The visiting team mainly relied on individual efforts of their players and scored the equalising goal in the 59th minute by Mustafa Qader. Ten minutes later close-guarded teammate Nizar Mahrous passed the ball to Munaf Ramada who scored a beautiful goal to give Syria a 2-1 lead.

Jordan scored the equalising goal in the 76th minute when Hisham Abdul Munem blasted a shot from well outside the penalty box, however the shot was too powerful for Syria's goalkeeper Salem Bitar, who dropped the ball as Jordan's alert Aref Hussein scored the match's final goal.

Syria's Anas Makhlouf and Mahrous repeatedly tried to score a third goal, as did Jordan's Mousa Awad. However the match ended in a 2-2 draw.

The match is one of a series of friendlies both teams are playing in preparation for the World Cup qualifying round next month. Jordan had won 3-2 in an earlier match in the Syrian capital.

## Maradona suspended

MADRID (AP) — Argentinian stars Diego Maradona and Diego Simeone of Seville have been suspended by the Spanish Football Federation Monday for failing to appear at a disciplinary hearing.

They were due to be questioned over fighting which broke out among players following a league match between Cadiz and Seville March 21.

Club trainer Carlos Bilardo, his assistant Miguel Angel Lemme and club president Luis Cuervas were also suspended for failing to appear.

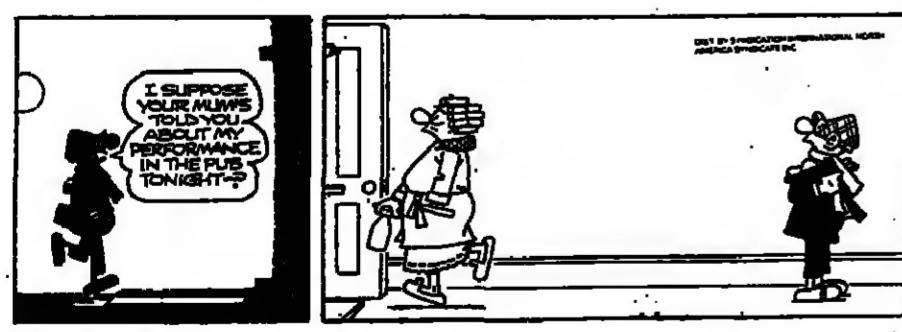
The players will not be allowed to play and the trainers not sit on the bench until the suspension is lifted.

All five have been ordered to appear before a new hearing next Wednesday.

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### 'Brazil will return to offensive play'

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — After a failed attempt to play European-style soccer, Brazil will return to its roots, national team coach Carlos Alberto Parreira said Monday. "Brazilians can't play in a straightjacket," Parreira said at a news conference. "We play better when we're loose, free and spontaneous." Parreira took charge of the national team last year, and has compiled a 10-3-2 record. He replaced Sebastiao Lazaroni, who quit after Brazil was eliminated from the 1990 World Cup by Isiog 1-0 to Argentina. Lazaroni tried to impose a more defensive, European-style to the team. A three-time world champion, Brazil is the only country to have qualified for every World Cup. Though early, Parreira said that England, Germany, Argentina and Italy would be strong contenders for the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

### Platt back for Juventus amid transfer speculation

ROME (R) — England captain David Platt has been recalled by Juventus for Thursday's UEFA Cup semifinal tie against French side Paris St. Germain but is still uncertain about his future at the club. Platt, dropped for the most recent Juventus league wins against Torino and AC Milan, is included because German defender Juergen Koehler is suspended, but is well aware of speculation he may be sold to Sampdoria. Juventus take a 2-1 advantage to Paris but coach Giovanni Trapattoni has had to completely reshuffle his side. As well as Koehler, midfielders Dino Baggio and Antonio Conte are also suspended. Platt will accordingly play in an unusual midfield trio alongside Gianluca Viali, normally a striker, and defender Giancarlo Marocchi.

### Hero Morrow out of FA Cup

LONDON (AFP) — Steve Morrow, scorer of Arsenal's winning goal in Sunday's League Cup final, is out of the FA Cup final after breaking his arm. The young Ulsterman, Arsenal's match-winner in the 2-1 triumph against Sheffield Wednesday, needed surgery on his upper arm soon after the final whistle. Team celebrations got carried away as the player fell after being lifted up in triumph by captain Tony Adams. Morrow has carried from the Wembley pitch while his stunned colleagues climbed the famous Royal Box steps to collect the trophy.

### Whitaker to face Cesar Chavez for WBC title

NEW YORK (AP) — Pernell Whitaker agreed Monday to put his World Boxing Council welterweight championship on the line Sept. 10 against undefeated Julio Cesar Chavez in the Alamodome at San Antonio, Texas, according to promoter Don King. Chavez, the undefeated WBC super lightweight champion from Mexico, is 86-0 with 74 knockouts. Whitaker is 32-1 with 15 knockouts. Both are five-time world champions in three weight classes.

### Sweden want Brolin, Thern free for France game

STOCKHOLM (R) — Sweden have asked Italian clubs Napoli and Parma to rest key players Jonas Thern and Tomas Brolin ahead of their World Cup qualifier against France April 28, national team coach Tommy Svensson said Tuesday. Assuming midfielders Brolin and Thern attend, Svensson will have the full complement of Sweden's overseas players available for the crucial game at the Parc des Princes in Paris. They include Martin Dahlin, who scored twice for Borussia Moenchengladbach against Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga last weekend, and Roland Anders Limpar is also in the 18-man squad named by Svensson.

## World Tennis Rankings

Top 15 world tennis rankings according to the list issued by the Women's Tennis Association and the men's ATP tour:

- Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) 328.19 pts.
  - Steffi Graf (Germany) 299.98
  - Aranzazu Sanchez (Spain) 217.44
  - Martina Navratilova (USA) 195.23
  - Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) 163.68
  - Mary Joe Fernandez (USA) 118.69
  - Jennifer Capriati (USA) 117.28
  - Conchita Martinez (Spain) 105.82
  - Jana Novotna (Czech) 94.47
  - Manuela Maleeva-Fraguere (Switzerland) 75.70
  - Anke Huber (Germany) 75.59
  - Amanda Coetzer (South Africa) 65.43
  - Natalie Tauziat (France) 64.01
  - Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria) 63.70
  - Elena Sukova (Czech) 60.81
- Pete Sampras (USA) 3,826 pts.
  - Jim Courier (USA) 3,517
  - Stefan Edberg (Sweden) 2,985
  - Boris Becker (Germany) 2,680
  - Petr Korda (Czech) 2,452
  - Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia) 2,294
  - Andre Agassi (USA) 2,213
  - Ivan Lendl (USA) 2,168
  - Michael Chang (USA) 1,853
  - Michael Stich (Germany) 1,801
  - Andrei Medvedev (Ukraine) 1,721
  - Thomas Muster (Austria) 1,659
  - Richard Krajicek (Netherlands) 1,610
  - Karel Novacek (Czech) 1,571
  - Wayne Ferreira (South Africa) 1,564

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNHA HIRSCH  
Tribune Media Services, Inc.

### JUST ONE MOMENT IN TIME

East-West vulnerable. South book on point count and bid a game because of the double fit. Sadly, the operation was successful, but the patient died.

West led a low diamond to declarer's ace. A heart to the queen lost to the ace, and declarer ruffed the diamond return. After drawing the outstanding trumps, declarer cashed the ace of clubs and snared the king.

Eager to take as many tricks as possible, declarer continued with a club to the jack and queen. East forced out declarer's last trump by persisting with a diamond, and West took the last two tricks with the ace of spades and a high diamond—down one. The fulfilling trick, the king of spades, withered on the vine.

See the difference if, after dropping the king of clubs, South were to lead a spade instead of setting up the clubs. West can take the ace, but has no good return. A spade will leave South with a trump after dislodging the queen of clubs. A diamond establishes dummy's queen to thwart any further assault on declarer's trump holding.

Oddy, even if the queen of diamonds were a low spot, the contract would still come home. East would return to a diamond after winning the queen of clubs, so heads you win, tails she loses.

## HOROSCOPE

### FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** With the New Moon and Sun in Taurus you will have some opportunity to forge ahead with new, inspired goals with less drawbacks than usual. Speak your ideas frankly and expect to receive assistance from unexpected sources.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) A plan to some way to extend your activities takes a different course so go along with it and in the evening do nothing to upset one in authority.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You can have a money matter arise early that can be upsetting but get it behind you sensibly and tonight don't get off on any tangent.

**GERMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) The actions of an associate can throw you for a loop if you allow but maintain poise and tonight clearly understand whatever your mate says to you.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Whatever your activities early in the day you find some revision of plans are necessary and in the evening a calculating associate can upset you.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Avoid a newcomer with a grab tongue early in the day while in the afternoon, evening your judgment and intuition are not on the beam.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Don't take up commitments you've made or wish to make with business persons now and in the evening sidestep a secret anxiety that obsesses you.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) A partner can throw you for a loss early in the day so don't be influenced by this person while in the evening you need in use much care on the highway.

and dramatic changes in the morning but it is not in your best interest while tonight avoid a recreation you usually like.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) You don't see how you can solve an issue that bugs you can so put it aside for the moment and tonight use much care about a confusing situation at home.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) An acquaintance can cause you no end of trouble in the morning so avoid such a person, while tonight be sure you communicate your views exactly.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Use care today to do nothing that can distract the views or mood of one of influenced while in the evening use care in your financial commitment.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) A acquaintance can cause you no end of trouble in the morning so avoid such a person, while tonight be sure you communicate your views exactly.

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## THE BETTER HALF, By Glasbergen



By Glasbergen

"I like it when we fight about my old girlfriends. It makes me feel desirable!"

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLING WORD GAME

by Herb Arnold

LADLY

OOO



## Croats, Muslims engaged in 'vicious' fighting in Bosnia

SARAJEVO (AFP) — Bosnian Croat forces and the mainly Muslim Bosnian army clashed Tuesday for the fifth straight day, with villages reported razed, local civilians and foreigners detained, and shells crashing down on major towns.

Hundreds of villagers, both Muslims and Croats, were reported to be fleeing.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman Barry Frewer described the fighting as "vicious."

Croat gunners were shelling the southern city of Mostar Tuesday with 120mm guns, the Bosnian army reported. Croatian forces denied the charge.

The Roman Catholic Croat forces and the mainly Muslim Bosnian army clashed earlier in the war in this former Yugoslav republic, which is now in its second year, but have been in uneasy alliance against Bosnian Serb forces, who are Orthodox, for some months.

No accurate casualty count is available for the latest fighting, which is taking place in the centre and south, blocking the aid convoys which keep tens of thousands of Bosnians alive.

Peter Kessler, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said supplies in Sarajevo were low, with little food in warehouses and relief flights bringing in only two-thirds of the food and other aid needed to keep the 280,000 people of the capital alive at subsistence level.

The flights are frequently halted for days at a time when they are considered too dangerous, and other towns around the

country depend on the road convoys and food dropped from aircraft.

Mostar, in the south of the country, has a Muslim majority population. It has heavily damaged by Bosnian Serb shelling earlier in the war.

Bosnian reports said Croat troops had set two Muslim villages in the area ablaze and burned a woman to death.

Jablanica, a strategic crossroads town between Sarajevo and Mostar, has also under steady Croat bombardment Tuesday, with mortars falling around the power plant, which also supplies the capital, the army said.

Another report said Croats had put the torch to the village of Gacice near the central town of Vitez, which was itself said to be under constant shellfire.

Sarajevo Radio reported that Croat forces in the centre of the country had kidnapped "numerous foreign citizens."

The foreigners kidnapped included the drivers of stranded relief convoys, the radio said.

General Šefter Halilović, the commander of the Bosnian army, met Monday with General Milivoj Petković, the commander of the Croat forces, in the Croatian town of Medugorje, half-way between Mostar and the Adriatic Sea, Sarajevo Radio reported.

Senior politicians from both sides also attended that meeting, and negotiations were continuing Tuesday.

Commander Frewer reported that both sides had expressed willingness to end the fighting, but were setting "many conditions."

Meanwhile the United Nations is seeking a three-day extension of a deadline for Muslim defenders of the eastern Bosnian town of Srebrenica to surrender their weapons to peacekeepers, U.N. officials said.

The original three-day deadline, incorporated in a ceasefire agreement signed Sunday as Serb attackers were poised to seize the town, expires Wednesday afternoon, 72 hours after the arrival of Canadian U.N. troops in Srebrenica Sunday.

The agreement obliges defending troops of the mainly Muslim Bosnian army within the enclave, where 30,000 civilians are trapped, to surrender their weapons to the U.N. troops.

Commander Frewer said the force was seeking a 72-hour extension beginning at 1200 (1000 GMT) Wednesday.

In Belgrade, UNPROFOR spokeswoman Araceli Santana said Muslims had started handing over their weapons in Srebrenica, but the operation was going very slowly.

She said the ceasefire in force since early Sunday had been breached by sporadic shelling until midnight Monday on the outskirts of the former silver mining town.

Ms Santana said 60 Canadian reinforcements had arrived in their armoured cars, stopped by Bosnian Serbs Monday from entering Srebrenica. The absence of action on the ceasefire, reached in Grozny under U.N. and EC mediation, was seen here as a rejection of the agreement.

NATO planes have seen the first confirmed violator of the U.N. no-fly zone over Bosnia-Serbrenica, were still negotiating their passage to join the 145 Canadians already there.

Serb commanders accused the Canadian troops of exceeding their mandate by carrying out reconnaissance missions near

Serb positions, the Tanjug News Agency said. The commanders lodged a formal protest with the U.N. force, it added.

Officials of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said they had suspended convoys to Srebrenica, while waiting for Serb guarantees on safety, after two truck drivers were slightly injured in stone-throwing incidents in Serb-held areas.

Croatia's Serbs decided Tuesday to join their local assembly with the self-styled parliament set up by secessionist Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina as a first step toward linking up in a Greater Serbia.

The 207 representatives meeting in this town 110 kilometres east of Zagreb voted to approve the proposal to create the Union of Parliaments which was put forward by Nikola Koljević, a close associate of Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić.

But they declined to take any vote on a ceasefire reached April 6 between the Croatian government and Serbian forces in the Krajina enclave of southern Croatia. The absence of action on the ceasefire, reached in Grozny under U.N. and EC mediation, was seen here as a rejection of the agreement.

NATO planes have seen the first confirmed violator of the U.N. no-fly zone over Bosnia-Serbrenica, were still negotiating their passage to join the 145 Canadians already there.

Two U.S. F-15s sent to check a series of radar signals coming from unknown aircraft spotted a low-flying helicopter over the former Yugoslav republic Monday, they added.

It bad earlier sent a letter to head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk saying party members



ABKHAZIA FIGHTING: Two Abkhazian soldiers defend their position as Georgian National Guard members try to advance near Eshera, Monday. Fighting between Georgians and Abkhazians continues despite several attempts to stop the killing (AFP photo)

## 'Khmer Rouge preparing big attack'

PHNOM PENH (R) — The Khmer Rouge left the Cambodian capital last week because the radical group is preparing a big attack in the provinces and fears its officials will be held hostage, a Phnom Penh government spokesman said Tuesday.

The Khmer Rouge, which is refusing to abide by key elements of a Cambodian peace accord signed in Paris in 1991, evacuated its high-walled compound in Phnom Penh on April 13.

It had earlier sent a letter to head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk saying party members

fear for their safety and would not return, even for meetings of the all-faction reconciliation body, the Supreme National Council (SNC).

"We don't think that this is true," Khieu Kanharith, spokesman for the State of Cambodia (SOC) and adviser to Prime Minister Hun Sen, said at a news conference.

He said that if the Khmer Rouge was really worried about security it could have asked for protection from the peacekeeping U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

"The most important reason is

the Khmer Rouge are preparing for two years of probation and will perform 200 hours of community service, assistant state attorney John Barsanti said. The couple thus avoided being tried on 64 counts, including neglect of children, endangering the life of a child, aggravated battery, abandonment, cruelty to children and unlawful possession of marijuana.

Mr. Barsanti said he had no hard evidence to back up his statement, but linked it to an attack Monday on government forces in the village of New Oral in Kompong Speu province, which he called a "distraction".

## Prince Charles revisits island hit by oil spill

LONDON (AP) — Prince Charles kept a promise Monday when he returned to the Shetland islands to see how islanders are coping with the aftermath of an oil spill. Three months after he and his father, Prince Philip, watched the tanker Braer break apart in violent weather, fish farmers told Prince Charles the spill is still affecting their daily lives and business. A quarter of Shetland's Salmon farms were contaminated by the 24.6 million gallons (93 million litres) of crude oil gushed into the North Sea.

At least 26 people were killed Monday and Sunday night, nearly all in Johannesburg's slum townships, including two people whose charred bodies were found in a house near the stadium where Mr. Hani's funeral was held.

"It tastes just like salmon," Prince Charles said, trying a sample at the college. "It needs a dash of mayonnaise."

The salmon he tried came from a fish farm outside the 1,300-square kilometre exclusion zone set up after the oil spill. "Our message is that we have the finest quality control system in the world," said Chris Young, chairman of the Shetland Salmon Farmers' Association. He stressed that 75 per cent of the island's salmon farms were unaffected in the disaster.

## Gold coins, amnesty for Japan imperial wedding

TOKYO (R) — Japan will issue gold coins and declare a general amnesty to commemorate the wedding of Crown Prince Naruhito and former career diplomat Masako Owada, government officials said Monday. Two million 18-gold gram coins, with a face value of 50,000 yen (\$45), are to be minted in September three months after the wedding on June 9. Finance Ministry officials said.

The coins will be engraved with a pair of flying cranes on one side and Japan's imperial seal, a 16-petal chrysanthemum, on the other. Smaller silver coins, with a face value of 5,000 yen (\$45), and copper 500-yen (\$4.5) coins will be issued in June. The government is expected to declare the wedding day a national holiday and grant a general amnesty to millions of petty offenders, Justice Minister Masaharu Goito said.

Election law offenders were likely to see their civic rights restored in the amnesty. Japanese newspaper said.

**China's witch doctors outnumber regular healers**

PEKING (R) — China has 1.8 million witch doctors ministering to rural peasants' mental illnesses, outnumbering the nation's regular physicians, according to a survey. The information emerged from a 10-year investigation carried out by Li Shengxian, director of the Mental Health Research Institute of Xian City, Hubei province, according to the April 17 edition of the Shaanxi Daily newspaper.

"The survey gives the surprising information that in rural China, one-quarter of mental patients consult witch doctors instead of medical practitioners," the newspaper said. Most of China's 1.12 billion people live in the countryside.

## Yeltsin orders police to guard polling places

MOSCOW (Agencies) — President Boris Yeltsin Monday ordered police to guard polling places during Sunday's nationwide referendum on his leadership to ensure that the balloting is carried out.

Mr. Yeltsin's foreign minister, meanwhile, warned that if Mr. Yeltsin loses the referendum, Russia could be plunged into a crisis worse than that plaguing Yugoslavia.

The president's press office said he was ordering Interior Ministry police to guard polling stations and election commission offices so that political groups do not try to disrupt the voting.

"To maintain law and order on referendum day, a constant presence of Interior Ministry officers at balloting stations and commission offices is required," Mr. Yeltsin's press office quoted the order as saying. "Any illegal actions are to be reported to the president's administration and prosecution's office."

While Mr. Yeltsin remains popular, his free-market reforms are not. Many voters are likely to say they do not support his reforms, which have brought skyrocketing inflation and falling living standards.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev told reporters Monday that a vote against Mr. Yeltsin would lead to "a repetition of the Yugoslav variant."

Some regional officials across Russia have opposed the referendum, saying that it could be

## U.S. cult leader, followers commit mass suicide

WACO, Texas (R) — U.S. cult leader David Koresh and more than 80 followers committed mass suicide in an apocalyptic inferno after federal agents attacked his fortress compound with tanks and tear gas, officials said.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said Mr. Koresh, who claimed he was the incarnation of Jesus and in personal contact with God, ordered his followers to set ablaze his heavily armed compound to fulfil his vision of Armageddon, the Biblical last battle before the world ends.

The flames that turned the sprawling compound of the Branch Davidian sect into a blazing funeral pyre also ignited a major controversy over the decision by President Bill Clinton's administration to try to end the 51-day siege.

I told the attorney general to do what she thought was right, and I stand by that decision," said Mr. Clinton, who gave the green light during a telephone conversation with Ms. Reno.

Mr. Clinton said Monday he had approved the strategy developed by law enforcement officials and put before him by Ms. Reno Sunday.

Mr. Clinton said he was told that Mr. Koresh arranged for the

children to be given injections to put them to sleep before they were burned alive.

"His (Koresh's) desire... was that he wanted to have as many people killed in that compound as possible. That is why it was named the 'apocalypse,'" Mr. Ricks said, adding that Mr. Koresh also wanted to kill as many federal agents as possible.

Mr. Ricks said one survivor told the FBI an exultant cry of "the fire has been lit, the fire has been lit" rang through the building as it went up in flames.

The tragic outcome is certain to baffle the Clinton administration for weeks to come.

Mr. Koresh's lawyer, Dick DeGuerin, told a news conference that he blamed the FBI for the tragedy, saying that if they had not attacked, Mr. Koresh would have left the compound peacefully.

Several senators promised hearings and a group of left-wing picketed FBI headquarters in New York, calling the FBI murderers. Ms. Reno said she would welcome a review of the government's handling of the case.

Mr. Ricks said the FBI acted as it did because it believed Mr. Koresh was preparing for an armed confrontation.

He said the FBI hoped that once the teargas permeated the compound, the women inside would run out with their children. Instead the children were kept in an upstairs bunker and died.

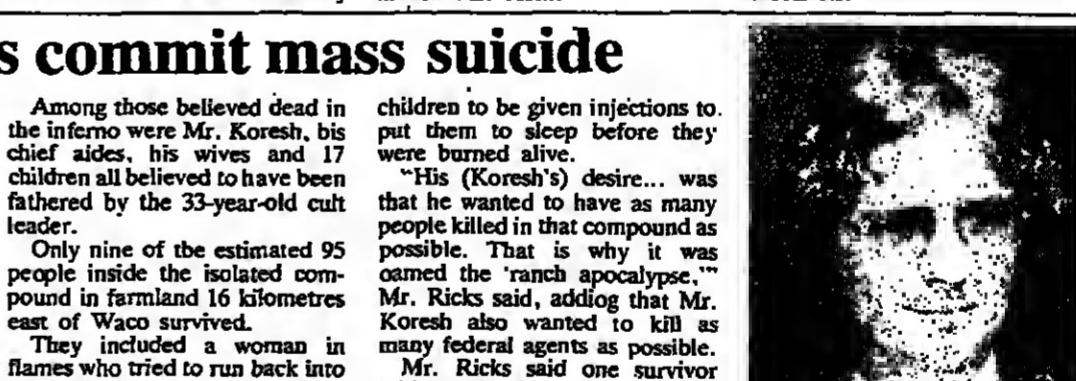
Mr. Ricks insisted that the mass suicide was what Mr. Koresh — a religious fanatic who believed he was the messiah — came to warn the world that the end was near — always wanted.

The horrific end to the Waco saga called to mind the 1978 Jonestown mass suicide involving more than 900 people who took poison and died at a cult centre in the jungles of Guyana.

Mr. Koresh's "apocalypse



The Branch Davidian cult compound near Waco burns Monday. The fire apparently started inside the compound several hours after federal agents began pumping tear gas into the headquarters of the cult lead by David Koresh (AFP photo)



David Koresh

"pow" message had attracted a international following of Britons, New Zealanders, Australians, Filipinos and Israelis as well as Americans.

Of the nine cult members

known to have survived Mon-

day's fiery end, four were being treated at area hospitals, while the other five — including two Britons and an Australian — were being held as material witnesses in the county jail.

The siege at the compound began on Feb. 28 when four federal agents were killed in a shoot-out with the Branch Davidian cult. Mr. Koresh was wounded and six of his followers were killed in the raid to confiscate weapons the cult had been stockpiling.

Mr. Ricks said four explosions were heard inside the buildings as the fire spread. Mr. Koresh and his followers had storerooms filled with weapons, ammunition and explosives.

Mr. Ricks said 70 to 80 rounds of gunfire were fired from the compound at FBI agents during the first incursion against the building shortly before sunrise. The agents did not return fire.

Agents were met with additional rounds of fire each time the boom of a tank gun made a hole in the buildings through which to fire the gas, the FBI said.